

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in connection with the above-identified continuation application. Please amend the continuation application in accordance with this Preliminary Amendment prior to any other actions on the merits.

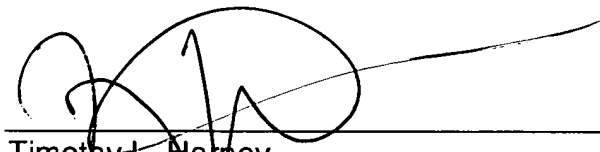
An election/requirement was issued January 24, 2003 in the parent application, Serial No. 10/100,757. Applicants are filing the present application with respect to the non-elected claims 18-21 and 23-24.

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the pending claims in the present case are allowable for at least the same reasons that the claims in the parent case were allowable.

Please charge any required fees not paid herewith or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd., Account No. 13-0017. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter. Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: October 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy L. Harney
Reg. No. 38,174

McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.
500 West Madison Street
34th Floor
Chicago, IL 60661
Telephone: (312) 775-8000
Facsimile: (312) 775-8100